

DRAWING AMENDMENTS:

Attached at Appendix A is a New Sheet including Figures 14 and 16. Figure 14 is newly added to the application while Figure 16 was previously part of the application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in the application. Claims 1-2, 5-6, 9-12, 19-21, 24 and 27 are amended above to more clearly set forth what the Applicant regards as the invention. Claims 28-33 are newly added to the application. A new Figure 14 is also added to the application by this amendment. No new matter is added to the specification or claims by these amendments.

I. THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 is amended above to more clearly claim what it is that the Applicants regard as the invention. As amended, claim 1 replaces the term “surface” extending into the cavity and replaces it with the term “material” where the material has a conductive region.

II. THE DRAWING OBJECTION

The examiner objected to the drawings for lacking a Figure 14. A replacement Figure sheet including a new Figure 14 and original Figure 16 is attached to this Reply. Figure 14 does not add any new matter to the application.

III. THE CHOON ANTICIPATION REJECTION

The examiner rejected claims 1, 5-6, 8-12, 15-20 and 22 for being anticipated by Choon et al. (USP 5,608,188). It is the examiner’s position that all of the features of the rejected claims are found identically in Choon. In particular, it is the examiner’s position that the Choon abstract discloses a package that includes at least one surface having a conductive material that is adapted to be at least partially absorbent to electromagnetic radiation. Choon does not anticipate any of the rejected claims at least because it does not disclose a surface having a material that is “absorbent to electromagnetic radiation”.

The Choon Abstract does not disclose a partition having electromagnetic absorptive properties. Instead, Choon discloses a partition that is an electromagnetic “shield”. It is readily understood by one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that a metallic shield acts as an electromagnetic radiation reflector and not as an absorber each of the rejected claims require.

The present invention includes a package that includes a material extending into a cavity that is adapted so that it is at least partially absorbent to electromagnetic radiation. Choon on the

other hand discloses a reflector electromagnetic of radiation - not an absorber. The examiner will appreciate that there is a significant difference between a conductor, generally assigned to have a very high conductivity, and the concept of conductance or conductivity, which is merely reciprocal of resistance and resistivity which does not necessarily imply a high conductivity. Thus, having a conductance adapted to be at least partially absorbent to electromagnetic radiation may result in a relatively low conductivity. This feature of the claimed invention, therefore is not shown or suggested in Choon.

Claims 5 and 8-12 are novel and patentable over Choon for the same reasons cited above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 6 is independently novel and patentable over Choon. The examiner cites Choon at column 2, lines 45-55 for disclosing an electromagnetic conducting material having at least one region arranged to have a specific resistance substantially similar to that of a predicted electromagnetic field that would be present in the cavity in use. The excerpt of Choon cited by the examiner for disclosing this claim 6 feature is reproduced below.

as shown in FIG. 2. The mounting surface (203) has a
45 predetermined configuration, such as a planer surface, and
the shield (100) preferably has improved coplanarity prop-
erties. This shield (100) depicted in a preferred form in FIG.
1, includes an enclosure (101) and a partition (103), with
each having electromagnetic shielding properties, such as
50 preferably provided by a metallic material like half hard 0.2
millimeters (mm) thick pre-tinned brass. The following
description refers to various of the FIG.'s 1 through 5.3
wherein like elements have like reference numerals.

The enclosure (101), depicted in additional detail in FIG.
55 4 and FIGS. 5A-5D et sequence, further includes a first

The cited portion of Choon clearly does not disclose any features remotely similar to the recited claim 6 feature. Therefore, claim 6 is novel and patentable over Choon.

Independent claims 15, 18 and 19 are also novel over Choon because Choon does not disclose a package including a portion that has a conductivity adapted to be at least partially absorbent to electromagnetic radiation. As noted above in applicant's comments regarding the novelty of claim 1, Choon does not include any wording or suggestion that any element of the Choon package is partially absorbent to electromagnetic radiation. For this reason, independent claims 15 and 18-19 are novel and so are claims 16-17, 20 and 22 which depend upon these

novel independent claims.

IV. THE BENZONI ANTICIPATION REJECTION

The examiner rejected claims 1, 15-20, 23-25 and 27 for being anticipated by Benzoni (USP 5,416,688). The examiner again relies upon the reference abstract to disclose the claim feature that a portion of the Benzoni package has a conductivity adapted to be at least partially absorbent to electromagnetic radiation. Claims 1-12, 15-20, 23-25 and 27 are novel over Benzoni because Benzoni at least does not disclose the recited claim feature.

Benzoni states quite clearly at column 3, lines 36-40 that “the conductive layer provides a layer resistance electrically conductive coating that effectively blocks, or shields, electrostatic and electromagnetic energy from passing through the housing, lid, or lid shield”. There is no mention in the Benzoni excerpt of the conductive layer absorbing electromagnetic radiation. Indeed, electromagnetic absorption is a different phenomena to the blocking or shielding of electromagnetic radiation that is the basis of the Benzoni and Choon inventions. Since all of the rejected claims include the limitation that the conductive region is at least partially absorbent to electromagnetic radiation, they cannot be anticipated by Benzoni.

V. THE OBVIOUSNESS REJECTION

The examiner rejected claims 14-15 as being unpatentable for obviousness over Choon in view of Miska (USP 6,901,660). Moreover, the examiner rejected claim 21 as being unpatentable for obviousness over Choon alone and claim 26 over Benzoni alone.

Claims 14-15 and claims 20 and 26 are nonobvious and patentable over the prior art recited by the examiner for the same reasons set forth in traversing the anticipation rejection of Choon and Benzoni above. Namely, neither of the cited references discloses nor suggests a package having a conductive material surface that is adapted to be at least partially absorbent to electromagnetic radiation.

Claims 14-15 are also non-obvious and patentable because Miska is not relevant to the present invention. It is the examiner’s position that Miska discloses the use of nichrome or carbon to prevent oxidation and that it therefore, would have been obvious to use nichrome or carbon for the conductive material of Benzoni for the purposes of preventing oxidation.

However, the Miska gaskets, which are made of nichrome or carbon, are designed for sealing joints between adjacent metal surfaces so they are not designed to absorb EM radiation. Instead, they are designed to provide a conductive path between adjacent surfaces. Moreover, oxidation is not a problem faced by the inventors of the present application so they would not have considered Miska to solve any problems relevant to the claimed invention.

V1. NEW CLAIMS 28-33

New claims 28-33 are added to the application in this Reply. Independent claim 28 is directed to an invention similar to claim 1 that further recites a range of resistivity for the conductive region. Independent claim 28 and claims 29-33 which depend upon new independent claim 28 are believed to be novel and nonobvious over the cited prior art.

CONCLUSION

Based upon the amendments and statements in favor of patentability presented above, the applicants submit that all pending application claims are now allowable. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of all pending application claims is, therefore, courteously solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Appendix A

(Replacement Sheet Showing Figure 14)

Replacement Sheet

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Fig.14.

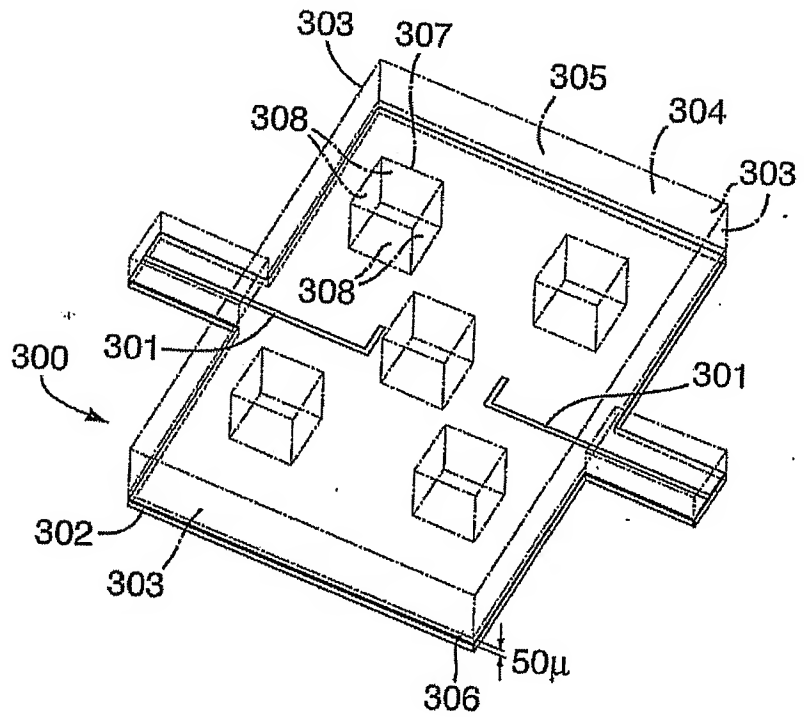


Fig.16.

